

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /003 R

66650

DRAFTED BY: S/NM: HRWELLMAN

APPROVED BY: S/NM: HRWELLMAN

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R 271924Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION ANKARA KABUL INFO DEA SECSTATE ISLAMABAD
FROM TEHRAN DECEMBER 27TH REPEATED FOR YOU ACTION

QUOTE

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FOR DEA; HQS WASHDC EOIN, IIGN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, IR

SUBJECT: IRANIAN SEIZURE: DELAVIZ NAROU ET AL

SUMMARY: ON 25 DEC 73, IN THE VICINITY OF KASHAN, IRAN
GOI NATIONAL POLICE NARCOTICS DIVISION (NPN) FROM
TEHRAN SEIZED APPROXIMATELY 4.3 TONS OF OPIUM, SUSPECTED
AFGHAN ORIGIN, FROM AN IRANIAN REGISTERED TRUCK.
FOLLOWING IRANIAN NATIONALS WERE ARRESTED: DELAVIZ
NAROU, ALIAS ENGINEER, SMUGGLING OPERATION HEAD;
BAGHER SADE GHIAN, NAROU'S ASSISTANT; HASAN BABA
PANAHI, DRIVER OF THE SEIZED TRUCK; HABIB REZAIAN,
ASSISTANT DRIVER OF THE SEIZED TRUCK. INVESTIGATION
CONTINUING. THIS IS LARGEST OPIUM SEIZURE EVER MADE
BY NATIONAL POLICE. END SUMMARY.

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1. IN EARLY OCTOBER 1973, NATIONAL POLICE NARCOTICS

DIV. (NPN) RECEIVED CI INFORMATION RE: DELAVIZ NAROU, IRANIAN NATIONAL, TEHRAN RESIDENT, COORDINATING AN ILLICIT OPIUM SHIPMENT TO IRAN. ALTHOUGH THE INFORMATION WAS SKETCHY, AN INVESTIGATION WAS INITIATED. DURING OCTOBER, NAROU'S VEHICLE, RESIDENCE, HANGOUTS AND SOME ASSOCIATES WERE IDENTIFIED. DURING NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER THREE WIRE INTERCEPTS WERE INSTALLED ON TELEPHONES USED BY NAROU.

2. WIRE INTERCEPTS UNCOVERED THE FOLLOWING. NAROU PLANNED TO PURCHASE APPROXIMATELY FOURT AND A HALF TONS OF OPIUM FROM HADJI SADJERA, RESIDENT OF KHANDEHAR AFGHANISTAN FOR ONE MILLION TOMANS (APPROX \$148,000 US). HADJI WAS FINANCIALLY BACKED BY SEVERAL LARGE-SCALE IRANIAN DRUG TRAFFICKERS WHO OPERATED FROM CITIES LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF IRAN. HADJI TRAVELLED TO MESHED TO DELIVER MENTIONED PAYMENT. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHO THE MESHED RECIPIENT WAS. UPON RETURNING FROM MESHED, HADJI CONTACTED TRUCK DRIVER HASAN BABA PANAHI, AND DRIVER ASSISTANT HABIB REZAI N, IRANIAN NATIONALS RESIDING IN TEHRAN.

3. ONCE IDENTIFIED, THE DRIVERS WERE PUT UNDER VISUAL SURVEILLANCE. THE TRUCK, THE TRAP (LARGE PACKING CRATE) AND A TEHRAN LOCATION TO BE USED IN THE SMUGGLING OPERATION WERE IDENTIFIED.

4. ON THE MORNING OF 25 DEC., MENTIONED TRUCK CONTAINING PANAHI AND REZAIAN LEFT TEHRAN FOR THE OUTSKIRTS OF KASHAN UNDER THE SURVEILLANCE OF TWO NPN OFFICERS. NAROU ALSO LEFT TEHRAN FOR KASHAN BUT WAS LOST BY SURVEILLANCE OFFICERS. UPON ITS ARRIVAL, THE TRUCK WAS MET BY FIVE JEEP STATION WAGONS CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 20 TO 25 ARMED BALUCH TRIBESMEN. WITHIN A SHORT TIME THE OPIUM WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THE STATION WAGONS TO THE TRAP LOCATED IN THE TRUCK. UPON TRANSFER THE TRIBESMEN WERE GIVEN FOUR 55-GAL DRUMS OF GASOLINE WHICH THEY LOADED INTO THEIR JEEPS AND DEPARTED FOR UNKNOWN DESTINATIONS. ARRESTS WERE NOT MADE AT THIS TIME DUE TO LACK OF MANPOWER.

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ON SAME EVENING TRUCK CONTAINING THE OPIUM WAS SEIZED AND THE DRIVERS ARRESTED AT GHOM APPROXIMATELY 80 KM FROM KASHAN. ON 26 DEC NAROU AND HIS ASSISTANT BAGHER SADEGHIAN WERE ARRESTED.

5. ON 26 DEC, NOLAN INTERVIEWED INVESTIGATIVE OFFICERS AND INTERROGATED THOSE ARRESTED. PANAHI WAS ONLY DEFENDANT WHO FURNISHED INFORMATION. PANAHI RELATED

THE FOLLOWING. THE OPIUM WAS SMUGGLED BY BALUCH CAMEL CARAVANS EITHER FROM AFGHANISTAN OR PAKISTAN TO THE VICINITY OF ZAHEDAN, IRAN (AFGHANISTAN, IRAN AND PAKISTAN BORDERS MEET APPROXIMATELY 50 KM FROM ZAHEDAN) WHERE IT WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE MENTIONED JEEPS. THE JEEPS THEO PROCEEDED OVER DESERT ROADS TO THE VICINITY OF KASHAN WEHRE THE TRANSFER WAS MADE. THE MENTIONED DESERT ROADS ARE RARELY PATROLLED OR USED ACCORDING TO NPN. NPN INFORMED NOLAN THEY SUSPECTED SEIZED OPIUM WAS FOR IRANIAN CONSUMPTION. HELMS UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC, SMUGGLING, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE250773
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/NM: HRWELLMAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973125/aaaaadcd.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SNM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRANIAN SEIZURE: DELAVIZ NAROU ET AL SUMMARY: ON 25 DEC 73, IN THE VICINITY OF KASHAN, IRAN
TAGS: SNAR, IR
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005